TRENDS

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ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, March 16, 1989 -- Carloadings* originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended March 11 totaled 325,248, down 1.7 percent from the comparable week of 1988 and 4.3 percent below the preceding week of 1989, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 0.9 percent in the West but down 3.7 percent in the East, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1988 week, coal loadings were up 6,162 cars (5.4 percent). Grain loadings were down 1,909 cars (5.8 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 10 weeks of 1989 totaled 3,273,110, virtually the same as the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 111,718 trailers and/or containers for the week ended March 11, 0.1 percent above the comparable week of 1988.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 10 weeks of 1989 was 1,106,599 trailers and/or containers, up 0.8 percent from 1988.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended March 11 totaled 18.9 billion, 0.5 percent below the comparable week of 1988. Cumulative volume for the first 10 weeks of 1989 was an estimated 191.2 billion ton-miles, up 1.2 percent from the comparable period of last year.

**Because of changes in reporting, 1989 figures are not comparable to previous years, except for 1988, which has been restated for purposes of comparison with 1989.*

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 11, 1989

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING MARCH 11, 1989	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1988	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	31,045	32,954	-5.8 %	33,284	-6.7 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,773	2,235	-20.7	1,526	16.2
Metallic Ores	15,078	14,832	1.7	13,263	13.7
Coal	119,525	113,363	5.4	127,192	-6.0
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	10,139	13,848	-26.8	11,869	-14.6
Nonmetallic Minerals	8,695	9,534	-8.8	9,316	-6.7
Grain Mill Products	10,240	9,835	4.1	9,657	6.0
Food & Kindred Products	8,574	9,064	-5.4	9,035	-5.1
Primary Forest Products	8,877	10,312	-13.9	9,293	-4.5
Lumber & Wood Products	6,687	7,976	-16.2	7,234	-7.6
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	9,944	11,258	-11.7	11,134	-10.7
Chemicals	27,763	27,531	.8	28,359	-2.1
Petroleum Products	5,157	4,830	6.8	5,211	-1.0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	9,286	10,240	-9.3	9,196	1.0
Coke	5,684	5,113	11.2	5,817	-2.3
Metals & Products	9,731	10,454	-6.9	10,764	-9.6
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	21,026	20,517	2.5	21,494	-2.2
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,950	10,068	-11.1	9,264	-3.4
Forwarder & Shipper Assn.	3	48	-93.8	7	-57.1
All Other Carloads	7,071	6,697	5.6	6,977	1.3
Total	**325,248**	**330,709**	**-1.7 %**	**339,892**	**-4.3 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING MARCH 11, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 10 WEEKS ENDING MARCH 11, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**325,248**	**330,709**	**-1.7 %**	**3,273,110**	**3,271,944**	**.0 %**
Intermodal Traffic						
Trailers	68,505	70,853	-3.3	659,033	682,573	-3.4
Containers	43,213	40,743	6.1	447,566	414,896	7.9
Total	**111,718**	**111,596**	**.1**	**1,106,599**	**1,097,469**	**.8**
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	**18.9**	**19.0**	**-.5 %**	**191.2**	**189.0**	**1.2 %**

NOTE: Carloads estimated for: Week 9, 1989 - PLE.

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